



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **Conservation Commission Minutes 03/18/2010**

Arlington Conservation Commission  
 Minutes  
 March 18, 2010

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, Ezra Benjamin, David White, William O'Rourke, Charles Tirone, Catherine Garnett and Ellen Reed of the Commission and Brian Thomas, Associate Commission member. Also in attendance were Doug Stiles, Bruce Whittle, Virginia Hutchinson, Chris Nauman, Suzy Nauman, Greg Ginot, Ben Ferber, Aimee D'Onofrio, Laura Kuhn, and Jerry Marontal.

7:45 p.m. – Commission Business

Reed/Benjamin moved to approve the 3/4 **meeting minutes** as edited; motion passed unanimously.

The board changed the date of the **Meadowbrook Park cleanup** to Saturday, May 15, at 9-12pm.

Ms. Beckwith reviewed the landscaping plans by MassDOT for the **Alewife Greenway** project and compared these to the permitted plans. Her recommendation was that the latest version has only minor alternations and is still well within the scope of the permitted plans and the existing permit should remain in effect.

After discussion, Benjamin/White motioned to issue a letter of approval of the latest plans under the existing permits; motion passed unanimously.

8pm – **Working Session** – 339 Mystic St

Ms. Kuhn has been hired to landscape the backyard of this house. The steep slope to the lake is severely eroding and full of knotweed. She will proceed with delineation and possibly file to approve this Resource Area delineations before moving ahead with the design.

Mr. Stevens recounted that the property may have has an outstanding condition from an enforcement order issue regarding replanting of trees. Ms. Beckwith will research the files for this information.

Mr. Tirone stated that a site walk should be conducted to approve the delineation and that chemical treatment for the invasives should not be encouraged.

8:15pm – **Notice of Intent** – Lot C Coolidge Rd, new house

The applicant requested a continuance of the hearing to 4/15/10 to respond to questions regarding geotechnical and landscaping issues but asked in writing that the Commission proceed with a peer review of the wetland and streamlet delineations.

The Commission reviewed the parameters for hiring peer review consultants under the Arlington wetlands bylaw and state law, regulations and state wetlands act -----on hiring consultants for peer review.

The Commission may request up to \$4500 to be placed in a revolving account to pay the peer reviewer under the bylaw; no such limit exists under state law. The applicant, Mr. Stiles, stated is prepared to put his preference to not have to spend more than \$1000 into the account for for the peer review of the wetland delineation.

Mr. Stiles responded commented that the streams are shown where they have a bank.

Mr. Whelple objected to further testimony being submitted at this meeting since the request to continue was sent to the abutters and they were not all present. He had no objection to the Commission discussing procedures.

Mr. Tirone agreed that it was wise to move forward with a new delineation as the time of year (in the near future) was more favorable to confirming wetland vegetation.

Ms. Beckwith compiled a list of possible wetland consultants. It would be desirable for the same firm to also have expertise in geotechnical issues and landscaping. The scope of work for the delineation confirmation will be: site work to delineate, a site meeting, a letter/report of findings, and attend one evening meeting. The peer reviewer's findings, if different from the applicant's, information should be given to LEC to add to the same plan as previously submitted to show if there are any differences.

O'Rourke/Tirone motioned to continue the hearing to 4/15 at 8pm; motion passed unanimously.

Commission Business (cont.)

The Board of Selectmen will hold a meeting on the **3/15/10 floods** on 4/13/10 in the Selectmans Selectmen's Meeting room.

The Commission will ask David Levy of the Arlington Housing Corporation to attend the next meeting to discuss stormwater runoff at the apartment project on **Forest St.**

Mr. Stevens raised the issue of 70 Bow Street, as the business there had not submitted a replication plan as the Commission asked for almost a year ago. Following discussion, the Commission voted unanimously to issued an Enforcement Order to **70 Bow St** for removing two trees and lawn within the Bufferzone to Geri's Brook. Mr. Stevens will mail it.

Ms. Beckwith forwarded a letter from the stores at **1367-1381 Mass Ave** regarding severe bank erosion of Mill Brook. The problem is probably worse after the heavy rain and flood of 3/15. Ms. Beckwith will email the Town Manager and Mike Rademacher, Town Engineer to remind them that a conservation permit would need to be filed for any work to stabilize this problem.

Meeting adjourned at 10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinna Beckwith

Commission Administrator